

REMARKS

Claims 13-27 are currently pending. New claims 24-27 repeat the recitations of claim 15 in various forms to suit the underlying independent claim. Additionally, the independent claims have been amended to include the definition of the electric field emission enhancing layer as found throughout the specification, for instance, at page 6, lines 18-24.

The undersigned wishes to thank Examiner Hines for the courtesy she extended throughout the prosecution and in her extensive Advisory Action. As the undersigned understands the Office's position, the phrase "electric field emission enhancing layer" according to the Office could "be reasonably interpreted as requiring the layer to enhance 'field emission' in the device. However, the Examiner notes that the phrase can be reasonably interpreted to require a layer that enhances the emission of an 'electric field'." Thus, the Office believes this phrase can read on the conductive protective layer in Antson. Applicants respectfully disagree with the position taken in the Office Action given that claims are to be read in light of the specification and given that the phrase includes the term "emission". However, to expedite prosecution, Applicants have amended the claims to incorporate the meaning of this phrase from the specification into the claims. As the independent claims currently read, they would not properly read on a layer that merely enhances the formation or "emission" of an electric field.

As stated previously, this amendatory language is fully supported by the specification at various locations including page 6, lines 18-23, for instance.

The additional dependent claims have been added to round out the scope of protection being sought by adding claims to cover various permutations of the

embodiments that were previously claimed and indicated to contain allowable subject matter, *e.g.*, as found in claims 14 and 15, for instance.


In light of the foregoing, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of the above-captioned application. Should any residual issues exist the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

BUCHANAN INGERSOLL & ROONEY PC

Date: August 10, 2007

By:



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